Halloween Fires (2009-2011)

For each year between 2009 and 2011, an estimated 11,300 fires were reported to fire departments in the United States over a three-day period around Halloween and caused an estimated 30 deaths, 175 injuries and $96 million in property loss.

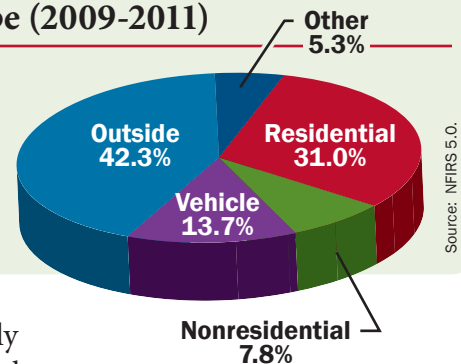## Loss Measures for Halloween and Non-Halloween Fires (three-year average, 2009-2011)

Loss Measure	Halloween Fires (Oct. 30-Nov. 1)	Non-Halloween Fires
Average Loss:		
Fatalities/1,000 Fires	2.4	2.0
Injuries/1,000 Fires	12.6	10.6
Dollar Loss/Fire	$7,510	$8,000

Source: National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) 5.0.

The average number of fatalities and injuries per 1,000 Halloween fires is slightly higher than the same loss measures for all other fires.
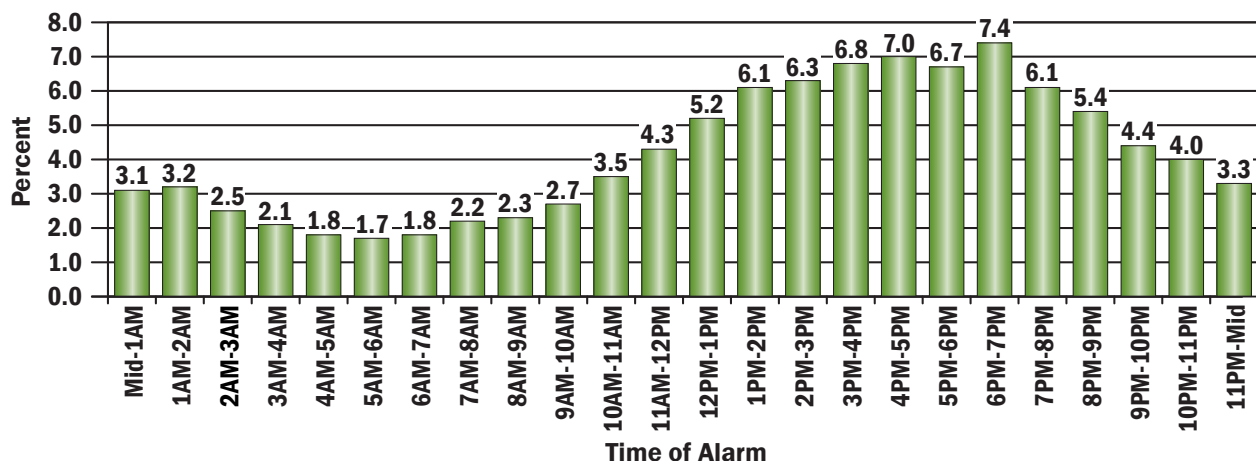
Halloween Fires by General Property Type (2009-2011)

In terms of numbers of Halloween fires, the largest general property type category was outside fires (42 percent) followed by residential fires (31 percent). Residential Halloween fires, however, resulted in the most deaths (79 percent), injuries (74 percent) and property loss (64 percent).

Other 5.3%
Outside 42.3%
Residential 31.0%
Vehicle 13.7%
Nonresidential 7.8%

Source: NFIRS 5.0.

Halloween fires occurred most frequently in the late afternoon and early evening hours, peaking during the dinner hours from 3 to 7 p.m. Fires then declined reaching the lowest point during the early morning hours (4 to 7 a.m.).

Halloween Fires by Time of Alarm (2009-2011)

Time of Alarm	Percent
Mid-1AM	3.1
1AM-2AM	3.2
2AM-3AM	2.5
3AM-4AM	2.1
4AM-5AM	1.8
5AM-6AM	1.7
6AM-7AM	1.8
7AM-8AM	2.2
8AM-9AM	2.3
9AM-10AM	2.7
10AM-11AM	3.5
11AM-12PM	4.3
12PM-1PM	5.2
1PM-2PM	6.1
2PM-3PM	6.3
3PM-4PM	6.8
4PM-5PM	7.0
5PM-6PM	6.7
6PM-7PM	7.4
7PM-8PM	6.1
8PM-9PM	5.4
9PM-10PM	4.4
10PM-11PM	4.0
11PM-Mid	3.3

Source: NFIRS 5.0.

The leading causes of Halloween residential fires:
- Cooking (43 percent) and heating (15 percent).

For additional information on preventing Halloween fires, please visit http://www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/home_fire_prev/holiday-seasonal/halloween.shtm.

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